



1
00:00:00,506 --> 00:00:09,056
[Music]

2
00:00:09,556 --> 00:00:11,726
>> My name is Dr.
Dionne Hernandez-Lugo,

3
00:00:11,786 --> 00:00:13,176
and I work in the Photovoltaic

4
00:00:13,176 --> 00:00:14,956
and Electrochemical
Systems Branch.

5
00:00:15,416 --> 00:00:18,066
My official title is a
Research Electrical Engineer,

6
00:00:18,186 --> 00:00:21,556
but I'm serving as the Project
Manager for the HyDRUS project.

7
00:00:22,216 --> 00:00:25,116
I've been here at NASA
Glenn close to five years,

8
00:00:25,206 --> 00:00:27,986
counting some co-op
time, and I've been part

9
00:00:27,986 --> 00:00:29,806
of this branch for
-- for that time.

10
00:00:30,586 --> 00:00:31,576
So HyDRUS stands

11
00:00:31,576 --> 00:00:35,776
for Hyperspectral HAB detection

via remote UAV sensing.

12

00:00:36,226 --> 00:00:39,446

And HAB is harmful
algal blooms, and UAV,

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00:00:39,446 --> 00:00:42,126

it's unmanned air vehicle,
which people call drones.

14

00:00:42,846 --> 00:00:46,116

So the algal blooms
are a cyanobacteria,

15

00:00:46,616 --> 00:00:48,366

which are formed on the lake.

16

00:00:48,626 --> 00:00:51,956

They are very toxic
if consumed by --

17

00:00:51,956 --> 00:00:56,216

by a human, and they're also
very toxic to our ecosystem.

18

00:00:56,726 --> 00:00:58,936

The main objective
of this project is

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00:00:58,986 --> 00:01:01,276

to develop a small version

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00:01:01,636 --> 00:01:05,726

of our hyperspectral imaging
system, to be able to mount it

21

00:01:05,726 --> 00:01:08,856

on a UAV, and have the
capability of going

22

00:01:08,856 --> 00:01:11,976

out on the lake and
imaging these HABs there.

23

00:01:12,816 --> 00:01:15,886

This allows for a
water treatment plant

24

00:01:15,926 --> 00:01:19,856

to have an early warning, which
allows us to have cleaner water

25

00:01:19,856 --> 00:01:21,266

and a better quality of life.

26

00:01:21,826 --> 00:01:24,916

Not only does it allow
you to have the capability

27

00:01:25,326 --> 00:01:30,946

of flying a little bit more than
what the operations would be

28

00:01:31,046 --> 00:01:32,786

on a -- on a manned aircraft,

29

00:01:33,066 --> 00:01:37,436

but it also gives the
opportunity to the public

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00:01:37,436 --> 00:01:40,986

to use this kind of
instrument for other areas,

31

00:01:41,026 --> 00:01:47,356

such as agriculture, also solar
panel health, and other areas

32

00:01:47,466 --> 00:01:50,216

where an instrument like
this, which is cost-effective,

33

00:01:50,216 --> 00:01:54,426

it's low weight, can be
used for other applications.

34

00:01:55,056 --> 00:01:57,356

For me, as a physical chemist,

35

00:01:57,416 --> 00:02:00,536

STEM education is
very, very important.

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00:02:00,566 --> 00:02:04,516

Not only in early stages,
right, K to 12, but --

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00:02:04,826 --> 00:02:08,436

but also, you know, those that
have the interest and want

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00:02:08,436 --> 00:02:11,066

to continue this, either as
their bachelor's or their PhD.

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00:02:11,066 --> 00:02:14,506

It was a dream, just
basically, coming true, right?

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00:02:14,576 --> 00:02:17,006

So, as soon as I walked
in through those gates, I,

41

00:02:17,006 --> 00:02:20,776

you know, I just started crying
because it was what I wanted,

42

00:02:20,776 --> 00:02:25,396

and I've been to different

paths, and I didn't know

43

00:02:25,396 --> 00:02:28,266
that the path that I was taking
in school, and the things

44

00:02:28,266 --> 00:02:32,006
that I have decided to do
would allow me to get here.

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00:02:32,416 --> 00:02:35,806
Growing up, I always
wanted to come

46

00:02:35,806 --> 00:02:37,516
and work here at -- at NASA.

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00:02:37,516 --> 00:02:39,206
I really did not
know how to get here.

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00:02:39,206 --> 00:02:41,696
I would see, you know, the
shuttle launches on TV,

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00:02:41,696 --> 00:02:43,636
but the truth is, I didn't
know what the path was

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00:02:43,696 --> 00:02:44,466
for me to get here.

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00:02:44,736 --> 00:02:48,236
I got involved in NASA-related
research through my PhD work

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00:02:49,316 --> 00:02:51,536
with a Harriett Jenkins
fellowship,

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00:02:51,536 --> 00:02:55,556

which allowed me not only to
learn about what NASA needed

54

00:02:55,556 --> 00:02:57,816

and how I could help with
some of the technology

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00:02:57,816 --> 00:03:01,176

that they were developing, but
also gave me the opportunity

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00:03:01,176 --> 00:03:03,636

to come here to NASA Glenn
and do an internship.

57

00:03:03,896 --> 00:03:07,426

I knew I needed to work hard,
and, you know, so I did,

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00:03:07,426 --> 00:03:11,856

and that allowed me to then
become a Pathways intern,

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00:03:11,936 --> 00:03:16,096

and then from there, be
hired as a civil servant